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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

25X1A

COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR. 20 October 1953

SUBJECT

Magnesium and Aluminum Smelting Works

NO. OF PAGES

1

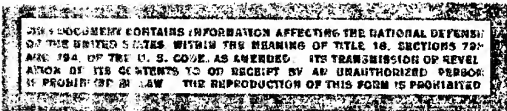
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO



THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The following are reported to be the only smelting works for light metals in East Germany:

- a. Huettenwerk Rackwitz, near Leipzig, for magnesium (Mg) and aluminum (Al).
1953 plan quota: 750 tons of Mg.
- b. Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld, for Mg and Al.
1953 plan quota: 900 tons of Mg.
- c. Berliner Schmelzwerk, for Al.

2. The Bitterfeld and the Rackwitz plants produced magnesium from scrap. The Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld was able to produce only 400 tons of the 1953 plan quota. The remaining 500 tons were scheduled to be won by the new Mg production which was not to be expected before mid-December 1953, the earliest date for the completion of the analysis plant.

3. The Bitterfeld magnesium producing plant was projected for an annual output of 8,000 tons of Mg and a production expansion of 12,000 tons. In 1954, the total output was scheduled to be not more than 2,500 tons of magnesium, most of which was allegedly to be used for the re-armament under the cover name of Fahrzeug-Programm (vehicle building program).

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Comment. Other reports confirm the magnesium production of 100 tons per quarter of the year in Bitterfeld. A new large magnesium producing plant with an annual capacity of only 5,000 tons of magnesium is scheduled to be erected in the Werk Nord prior to 1 January 1954. Owing to lack of equipment and unsatisfactory production of energy, this plant will, however, probably not be put into operation before the second quarter of 1954. Nor will the aluminum electrolysis plant No II in Bitterfeld, which was scheduled to start producing on 1 July 1953, be able to produce before 1 September 1953 because of lack of transformers. It therefore seems probable that 18,500 tons of metallurgical aluminum instead of 23,000 tons planned for 1953 will at best be produced by the end of the year.

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